

Remarks

I. Status

Claims 1-22 were previously pending. Claim 10 has been withdrawn as directed to a non-elected invention. Applicants have cancelled 1-9 and 12-20. Applicants have added new claims 23-25. Accordingly, claims 11, 21 and 22-25 are presently pending and under Examination.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention relates to the ability to confer electroconductivity to high polymer materials (see Specification, pages 2 and 3). As discussed in the Specification, it is desirable to use high polymer materials for electrostatic elimination and electromagnetic shielding due to the fact that they are light in weight, have high strengths, and can be made into a thin-film shape. However, nearly all high polymer materials are insulators. The present invention derives, in part, from the recognition that these high-polymer materials can be used to form high-polymer electroconductive materials. The invention thereby provides a simple and elegant solution to a problem that has long plagued the electronics industry.

Applicants have amended independent claims 11, 21 and 22 to include the recitations of claims 1 and 2, and to delete reference to liquid acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber in accordance with the suggestion of the Examiner. Support for the amendments to claims 11, 21 and 22 can be found in the Specification, at Paragraph 0015, lines 1-5 and lines 8-10.

New claims 23-25 are directed to embodiments of the independent claims in which a tertiary amine catalyst is included. Support for the inclusion of a tertiary amine catalyst is found at page 10, lines 2-14 of the Specification and in original claim 9.

No new matter has been added by any of the requested amendments or new claims.

II. The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-9 and 11-22 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as obvious in light of U.S. Patent No. 5,334,661 (Ochi *et al.*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,815,491 (Adedeji *et al.*). Claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20 and 22 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as obvious in light of U.S. Patent No. 4,500,660 (Minamisawa *et al.*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,815,491 (Adedeji *et al.*). Claims 1, 3, 5, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 22 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as obvious in light of U.S. Patent No. 4,749,748 (Inaiki *et al.*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,815,491 (Adedeji *et al.*). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections and request reconsideration in light of the amended claims.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's recognition that the prior art does not predict, teach, suggest or motivate compositions that contain a high polymer compound comprising (1) liquid styrene butadiene rubbers having both end-groups substituted by carboxyl groups, (2) liquid polybutadiene having both end-groups substituted by carboxyl groups, (3) liquid polyisoprene having both end-groups substituted by carboxyl groups, or (4) liquid polychloroprene having both end-groups substituted by carboxyl groups.

Applicants have accordingly amended the claims to contain such recitations. Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art does not predict the resin, sheet, or compositions presently claimed, and that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) may therefore now be properly withdrawn.

III. Concluding Remarks

Applicants submit that the present response is complete and complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §121. The Application is believed to be in condition for Examination and early notice of favorable action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions regarding the subject invention or its patentability, Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact the undersigned to answer such questions or provide any desired additional information.

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Edell, Shapiro & Finnan, LLC
1901 Research Boulevard, Suite 400
Rockville, MD 20850
Telephone: (301) 424-3640
Facsimile: (301) 762-4056
Customer No. **59866**

Respectfully Submitted,

/Jeffrey I. Auerbach/
Jeffrey I. Auerbach
Registration No. 32,680
Attorney for Assignee